



Society of Fire Protection Engineers

New Jersey Chapter

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FUSIBLE LINK

NOVEMBER 2004

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Message from the Chapter President...

This month's guest speaker is Mr. John Kennedy of the New Jersey Division of Fire Safety, who will brief the membership on the current status of New Jersey Administrative Code 574 which outlines who can touch and test fire protection equipment. If you are an automatic sprinkler contractor, professional engineer, equipment owner, maintenance personnel, building manager or even an insurance company representative, now would be a great time to ask the questions that are on your mind right to the source. This is a meeting you don't want to miss.

We have a new joint scholarship fund award recipient. His name is Alan Kouchinsky of Center Moriches, NY. He is a second year 3.0 + GPA student at the University of Maryland and is in the Fire Protection Engineering program. Alan will receive a \$1,500 check now and for every future semester as long as he maintains a 3.0 GPA and remains in the program. Congratulations to Alan and keep up the good work.

Dues Notices are out. Please get them back promptly. Thanks in advance for your help in this area. See you all in November.

Rich Reitberger
Chapter President

NJ SFPE Membership Meeting Minutes October 4, 2004

The meeting was called to order at 6:00 by our President Rich Reitberger. A salute to the flag was followed by all attendees introducing themselves as is our normal custom.

The September minutes and October's treasurer's report were read, motions were made to accept, seconded and both the secretary's minutes and treasurer's report were accepted.

Three requests for membership, Thomas Citicchio of William H. Connolly & Co., Christopher Miller of Affiliated FM and Paul Cera of Schering-Plough, were made. Motions were made to accept them which was seconded and approved by all in attendance.

Joe also spoke about the Chapter Seminar that will be held October 19, and titled "High Rise Fire Safety." Joe Janiga will be doing the AM presentation "The Fire Hazard of Generator Fuel Supplies in High Rise Buildings". The afternoon presentations will be "Building Steel Fire Proofing" by Tim Vellrath of the Wesconn Company and a report on the "High Rise Safety Coalition" of NJ which will be presented by Vinny Fichera of the NFSA. The seminar will be held at FM Global and will cost \$65.00 per person.

The new Senate Bill No. 1667 was discussed. (Note: the previous fire alarm and suppression law allowed Professional Engineers to operate sprinkler equipment). This new bill will exclude PE's from touching or operating any equipment. The general consensus of the meeting attendees was that this is not a good bill. We must contact our state legislatures if we feel that this new bill will be a restraint of trade and a handicap to both the engineering industry as well as that of our clients.

This bill will bring the cost of testing and maintenance to a prohibitive level and may well work to cut down on required

testing causing unsafe conditions. It would require a fire alarm technician who is licensed as well as a union sprinkler fitter to both be present to run a fire pump, open an inspectors test valve or operate any test valve supervisory devices.

Our presentation this evening was "Corrosion Management for Fire Protection Systems" by Tim Davis COO of fpsCMI (Fire Protection Systems Corrosion Management, Inc.).

Mr. Davis started his presentation by letting the group know that corrosion in different forms is a national problem and not really localized in any particular area, however MIC seems to be a little more prevalent in the Southwest. Further, that 3.1% of the US GNP is spent by US companies on corrosion; this not isolated to fire sprinkler and standpipe systems but pipe corrosion in general. Other industries are spending a total of 1.5 billion dollars per year on corrosion treatment chemicals. We in the suppression industry are just beginning to become pro-active when it comes to MIC and other forms of corrosion in fire protection piping.

Mr. Davis explained the unique issues we face in the fire protection industry as well as just what MIC is and is not along with interesting facts such as corrosion of different types affects dry and wet systems equally. One of the reasons we face unique problems is that other industries have dealt with corrosion for a long enough period to have developed "Best Practices" and our industry uses very little water treatment.

The primary corrosion problems in sprinkler piping are oxygen cell corrosion and biological. Mr. Davis explained corrosion with a triangle much like we describe fire which is also a form of oxidation. He went on to explain how the fire protection industry was becoming aware of the problems

and that fpsCMI follows NFPA 13 - 2002 edition. The method that NFPA recommends treating the problem is the same that fpsCMI uses and it is three parts.

1. Evaluation of the water supply and environmental conditions.
2. Treat all water entering the system.
3. Implement approved monitoring plans.

This is fine for new systems, however, for older systems NFPA 25 - 2002 edition is followed (i.e. for older systems already in place).

1. Conduct internal investigations.
2. Look for foreign materials.
3. Nondestructive exams are permitted. Mr. Davis recommends testing at high and low points in the system.
4. Perform every five years.
5. If corrosion product is found you must then test for MIC.

Mr. Davis and his company are of the opinion that repairs will only provide temporary fixes and recommends wholesale pipe replacement when serious problems are found. He informed us that they have gone into a joint venture with Potter for three new products, one is a manifold that allows coupons to be left in the system to later be isolated and removed for inspection for corrosion, another is a vent that allows air to be released from the piping and finally a chemical delivery system for filling the system with fpsCMI's chemicals and keeping the system level constant by adding chemicals each time water is added to the system. There are two different types of delivery systems, one is fixed and the other is used for the initial fill and is portable.

After the presentation Mr. Davis made himself available to answer questions. The website url is www.fpscmi.com and the phone number is (314) 432-1377.

Water Spray Protection of Machinery Spaces - Part III

The following technical article has been taken from the Fire Suppression and Detection Research Application Symposium - Fire Protection Research Foundation. This is the third and concluding part of this article.

The smaller drop systems extinguish the fires faster than the larger drop systems. The critical fire size (the smallest obstructed fire that can be extinguished) for a small drop systems is also almost half that of the larger drop systems. As one would expect, the small drop correlation is very similar to the capabilities observed for water mist systems in this application.

In summary, these tests served to further enhance our understanding of the use of water based systems (mist, sprays, sprinkler, etc.) for protecting shipboard machinery spaces. The results demonstrate that the mechanism and parameters that dictate the performance of water mist systems apply to water spray (larger drop) systems as well. The information collected during this investigation was used to up-grade the water mist fire suppression model developed and validated during previous USCG investigations. The modified model showed good agreement with the results of these tests.

Based on the results of these tests, it is likely that an optimized water spray system can successfully

complete the IMO test protocol for compartment volumes on the order of 500 m³. However, due to the large vent opening and/or smaller fire sizes included in the protocol, the water spray systems (larger drops) may have problems completing the requirements for larger machinery spaces. Previous studies have already demonstrated that water mist systems are unlikely to successfully complete the protocol for machinery spaces with volumes in excess of 1500-2000 m³.

With respect to approving these systems, it was concluded that the capabilities of these systems cannot be associated with a single parameter such as application rate and must be determined empirically. As a result, the approval of these systems needs to be performance based as with all other fire suppression systems required by SOLAS for this application. It was recommended that SOLAS Regulation 10 be re-written to cover all water based machinery space systems (water spray and water mist), and require that these systems successfully complete a test protocol such as the one currently used for approving water mist systems (MSC 668 and 7281) or one derived from those incorporating the recommendations put forth in this and previous studies.

NYC FPE Position Opening

A National Fire Protection Consulting firm has immediate opening for engineer experienced in fire protection design and analysis in its New York City office. Send resume and salary requirements to M. Meade at Rolf Jensen & Associates, 360 West 31st Street, Suite 1104, New York, NY 10001, Fax: 212-695-6671 or email to mmeade@rjagroup.com.

NOVEMBER CHAPTER MEETING

Our next speaker for the November 1 meeting will be John Kennedy. He is with the NJ Division of Community Affairs, Department of Fire Safety. He is responsible for enforcement of Code 5:74, New Jersey's Fire Protection Contractor Licensing Law, enacted last year, and he will be updating us on how that important law is taking effect and what changes are planned. Jack Kennedy has been a member of the fire service community for 43 years, two of which were with a professional fire department.

He was self-employed as a fire protection contractor for 38 years and is now employed with the State of New Jersey in the DCA, division of fire safety, fire marshals office, and supervisor of the contractors' certification unit.

Jack has two undergraduate degrees and an MBA. He presently sits on two NFPA committees, Private Fire Brigades and Pre-incident Planning.

Senior Risk Manager Position - Stryker Corporation

EXPECTED RISK MANAGER DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

Business Continuity Planning

Assist Stryker plants as they develop their BCPs based on template provided
Advise each plant's BCP Project Team of their counterparts at other Stryker plants
Assist in the development of intranet website to allow each plant's BCP Project Team to post and share BCP content as developed
Identify BCP "best practices" inside and outside of Stryker - possibly in consultation with Marsh, Aon and FM Global - and share with all plants
Offer additional support as requested by the plants
Research "Phase II" issues involving plan testing and maintenance and employee training
Develop the plan for the BCP "roll out" to the distribution divisions

Highly Protected Risk (HPR) Status

Responses to FM Global (FMG) inspection reports
FMG requests written response to their reports within 30 days
Ideally, someone from RM should be reviewing and discussing, as necessary, each location's response before it is sent to FMG, which RM has not done in the past
Expect FM Global to inspect 30+ locations vs. 20 inspected by Royal in 2002
Participate in joint discussions with FMG Engineering and Stryker plants concerning "disputed" FMG recommendations

Captive Insurance Company

Help research possible additional uses for captive (e.g., benefits, D&O, front for insurers subject to FET)
Assist with additional administrative tasks created by captive, including policy issuance/administration, actuarial and accounting

Liability Claims Handling

Manage the PER "dump" to the excess liability insurers that was performed by Legal last year
Help research and respond to insurers' batch claim information requests

Increased Insurance Renewal Demands

Help address insurers' significantly increased renewal information requirements, including preparing for underwriting meetings
Have not been able to pursue idea of inviting underwriters to Mahwah to hear presentations by HowOst and Biotech leaders
Help analyze coverage proposals and options
Significant coverage changes in certain coverages, especially excess/product and D&O liability, in recent and coming years
Direct relationship with FM Global creates additional demands on RM - and not just at renewal time, either

New Project Initiatives - help investigate and possibly implement:

Integrated Disability Management program
Additional Liability Avoidance / Risk Management Programs

Contract Review - assist as necessary

Relocation:

Relocation services are completely available.

Please Contact: Richard Meyers, CEO and Client Executive to Stryker Corp.
rmeyers@rmainc.com or 973 765-9000 x101

State of New Jersey - Senate Bill No. 1667 - Editorial Opinion

Most of us that are involved in Fire Protection issues in the State of NJ are aware of the new State law that requires one to be licensed to even so much as test an Inspectors test on an automatic sprinkler system. Even though the authors of the law did not have the intention to require a license for this type of testing, the attorney general's office is keeping to a very strict interpretation of the laws wording. The concern is that rather than help assure that fire protection systems are in good working order, this law may very well have the opposite effect. Being that building owners will now either have to get their own "testing" people licensed (and all the associated expenses) or hire a licensed outside contractor, may mean that systems are not tested or maintained to the extent prior to this law.

Just when you think this law couldn't become more regressive, a new proposed bill relating to who and how a person gets licensed has been proposed by:

Sponsored by:
 Senator STEPHEN M. SWEENEY
 District 3 (Salem, Cumberland and Gloucester)

Senator JOSEPH CONIGLIO
 District 38 (Bergen)

This new proposed bill will establish who and how a person obtains licensing, the following is a copy of certain sections of this bill. The authority of this process seems to be quite lopsided to one particular group (Fire Sprinkler Fitters).

4. (New section) State Board of Examiners of Fire Sprinkler Fitters
 - a. There is created in the Department of Community Affairs a State Board of Examiners of Fire Sprinkler Fitters, consisting of six citizens of New Jersey to be appointed by the Governor, without regard to political affiliation, and except as to members first appointed, for terms of four years and until the appointment of their successors. Of the members first appointed, one shall be appointed for the term of one year, two for two years, two for three years and one for four years.
 - b. Four members shall be journeymen fire sprinkler fitters with at least 10 years

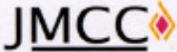
experience in the fire sprinkler fitter industry, one shall be a representative of a fire sprinkler fitter contractor, and one shall be a representative of the public having no association with the fire sprinkler fitting industry.

- c. Members of the State Board shall be subject to removal by the Governor for cause.

We are afraid it will make the cost of fire sprinkler test and maintenance prohibitive and give building managers one more reason to ignore their fire protection systems.

This bill will prevent building managers, their technicians, fire alarm technicians, PE's and anyone not having completed a bona fide, government-registered fire sprinkler fitter apprenticeship program, which establishes specified minimum requirements for on-the-job training and class room and shop instruction, from even testing a sprinkler system. Our interpretation is that only union fitters will be able to open a test valve, run a fire pump, operate an OS&Y, or PIV.

Time to contact your state senate representative.



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Meeting Dates/Program 2004-2005

(Programs Subject to Change)

Watch web page concerning cancellation In case of possible inclement weather conditions

- Nov. 1 "NJ Administrative Code 574 - Who Can Touch and Test Fire Protection Equipment" - John Kennedy, NJ Division of Fire Safety
- Dec. 6 "Pharmaceutical Hazards & Loss Prevention"
- Jan. 3 "Occupant Alarm Notification" - Issue and Design of Occupant Directed Alarms
- Feb. 7 "Risk Management - The State of the Property Insurance Market Place" - Panel of Speakers - Bob Baker, FM Global, Mike Newman, Johnson & Johnson, Brad Hart, Willis
- March 7 "Mitigating Earthquake Damage - Reinforcing Techniques"
- April 4 "Fire Trailer & Dynamics" - NFSA Fire Burn Trailer & Fire Burn Dynamics
- May 2 "Chubb Lab" - Visit and Demonstration of Chubb's Fire Protection Systems Lab in Warren, NJ
- June 6 "Annual Meeting/Loss Lessons"
- June 27 Joint NY/NJ Chapter Joint Scholarship Golf Outing at West Point

POSITIONS TAKEN BY SPEAKERS ARE NOT NECESSARILY THE POSITION OF THE NJ S.F.P.E.

All meetings are held at the Hanover Manor, Eagle Rock Road, Hanover, NJ (approximately 1½ miles west of Eisenhower Parkway). Get Acquainted Hour 5:00-6:00 p.m. Adjournment is usually before 8:30 p.m. The Executive Committee meets at 4:00 p.m.

Editors Note--If you would like to advertise your company and help offset the cost of this publication, as well as having your business card in front of over 150 Fire Protection Professionals please call John Cholin at (201) 337-8621 for further information. The cost is \$100 for fiscal year.

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MEETING NOTICE

- Date:** November 1, 2004
- Place:** Hanover Manor
16 Eagle Rock Avenue
East Hanover, NJ
- Price:** In Advance - \$22 At door - \$25
- Dinner:** 5:00-6:00 (Cash bar for mixed drinks)
Dinner at 6 PM
- Speaker(s):** John Kennedy, New Jersey Division of Fire Safety
- Topic:** "NJ Administrative Code 574 - Who Can Touch and Test Fire Protection Equipment"

Please note for this meeting:

All officers, directors and committee chairman are requested to attend a meeting at 4:00 p.m. at the Hanover Manor.

PLEASE COMPLETE AND RETURN WITH YOUR CHECK PAYABLE TO
"SFPE NJ CHAPTER" TO:

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Parsippany, NJ 07054-1196
vicki.serafin@affiliatedfm.com

NAME: _____
COMPANY: _____ TELEPHONE: _____

ALL RESERVATIONS SHOULD BE RECEIVED BY FRIDAY, OCTOBER 29, 2004. TELEPHONE RESERVATIONS OR CANCELLATIONS SHOULD BE RECEIVED BY NOON OF THE MEETING DAY.



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